



**Left:** Radar image showing composite reflectivity at the time of golfball to baseball size hail and larger across the Rio Grande Valley. Baseball size hail was reported in the McAllen and Mission area, and Golfball size hail was soon to be reported near Raymondville (upper right) soon after, most between 525 and 555 PM. **Right:** Radar image showing “hook” echo moving southwest of Harlingen, shortly before an apparent small tornado was reported near Rangerville at approximately 635 PM.

## Twice in Three Weeks!

### Hailstorms Race through the Mid Valley April 20<sup>th</sup>

**McAllen/Mission/Edinburg/Pharr struck by worst blows**

#### Recap in Brief

A rapidly developing disturbance racing through southeast Texas triggered the “loaded gun” of an unstable atmosphere during the late afternoon of April 20<sup>th</sup>, and thunderstorms exploded into the atmosphere well above the freezing layer. Just three weeks after McAllen/Edinburg/Pharr/Mission was slammed by buckets of golf ball to baseball size hail and 70 to 75 mph wind gusts, fast moving intense storms dropped significantly lesser amounts of hail and rain, but large hailstones just the same, ranging from golf ball to as large as grapefruits! Isolated small tornadoes touched down briefly in Raymondville and Rangerville (southwest of Harlingen), with minor damage to trees on one property. Additional details forthcoming as photos and stories are received. For more photos, consult our [Facebook Page](#). Videos can be found on [YouTube](#). A preliminary summary of all reports received by the National Weather Service in Brownsville follows:

PRELIMINARY LOCAL STORM [REPORT](#)...SUMMARY  
NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE BROWNSVILLE TX  
218 PM CDT [SAT](#) APR 21 2012

..TIME...	...EVENT...	...CITY LOCATION...	...LAT..LON...
..DATE...	....MAG....	..COUNTY LOCATION..ST..	...SOURCE....
..REMARKS..			

0420 PM	<a href="#">HAIL</a>	5 NE LA GLORIA	26.77N 98.48W
04/20/2012	E1.00 INCH	STARR	TX OTHER FEDERAL

US POSTAL SERVICE IN SANTA ELENA REPORTED QUARTER SIZED  
[HAIL](#).

0430 PM	<a href="#">HAIL</a>	ENCINO	26.93N 98.13W
04/20/2012	E1.00 INCH	BROOKS	TX LAW ENFORCEMENT

BROOKS COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE REPORTS QUARTER SIZE [HAIL](#)  
FELL IN ENCINO.

0436 PM [HAIL](#) 5 E LA GLORIA 26.72N 98.46W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH STARR TX CO-OP OBSERVER

[NWS](#) CO-OP OBSERVER REPORTS QUARTER SIZE [HAIL](#) AND WIND  
[GUST](#) TO 50 TO 60 MPH NEAR SAN ISIDRO

0520 PM [HAIL](#) MCCOOK 26.48N 98.38W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX LAW ENFORCEMENT

HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE REPORTS QUARTER TO  
GOLFBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) FELL IN THE VICINITY OF MCCOOK.

0525 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTS BASEBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) IN MISSION NEAR PALM  
DRIVE AND 5 MILE WIND EST. TO 50 MPH

0526 PM [HAIL](#) 5 N MISSION 26.28N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

GOLF BALL SIZE [HAIL](#) REPORTED IN ALTON NEAR INTERSECTION  
OF 5 MILE ROAD AND CONWAY.

0526 PM [HAIL](#) 6 NNW MCALLEN 26.29N 98.26W  
04/20/2012 E2.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

BEGAN AT 526 PM CONTINUED THROUGH AT LEAST 536 PM.

0527 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

GOLFBALL SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED IN MISSION NORTH OF 107.

0527 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

QUARTER SIZE [HAIL](#) REPORTED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF  
TRENTON AND 10 STREET.

0529 PM [HAIL](#) 5 NE PALMVIEW 26.28N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX AMATEUR RADIO

QUARTER SIZE TO GOLF BALL SIZE REPORTS IN PALMHURST  
AREA.

0530 PM [TSTM WND GST](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E60 MPH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

REPORTS OF 60 MPH WIND GUSTS AND GOLF BALL SIZED [HAIL](#)  
AT STUART AND 21ST.

0530 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

REPORTS OF 60 MPH WIND GUSTS AND GOLF BALL SIZED [HAIL](#)  
AT STUART AND 21ST.

0531 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W

04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

[SKYWARN](#) SPOTTER REPORTS QUARTER SIZE [HAIL](#) IN NORTHEAST  
MCALLEN

0531 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

GOLFBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) REPORTED NEAR THE INTERSECTION OF  
BICENTENIAL AND NOLANA.

0532 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

GOLF BALL SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT 4 MILE AND WARE.

0534 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTED DIME TO BASEBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) AT NOLANA  
AND 23RD.

0536 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX [NWS](#) EMPLOYEE

BASEBALL/FIST SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT TAYLOR AND 5 MILE  
ROAD.

0538 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

GOLF BALL SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT SHARY AND 3 MILE ROAD.

0539 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

[SKYWARN](#) SPOTTERS [REPORT](#) GOLF TO BASEBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) ON  
WARE RD AND QUARTER SIZE ON 23RD AND 5 MILE

0545 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E2.75 INCH HIDALGO TX POST OFFICE

PUBLIC REPORTS OF BASEBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) ON 2500 JASMINE

0545 PM [TORNADO](#) 1 SE RAYMONDVILLE 26.47N 97.77W  
04/20/2012 WILLACY TX PUBLIC

BRIEF TOUCHDOWN AND LIFT UP. NO DAMAGE REPORTED.

0545 PM [FUNNEL CLOUD](#) RAYMONDVILLE 26.48N 97.78W  
04/20/2012 WILLACY TX PUBLIC

[FUNNEL CLOUD](#) REPORTED IN RAYMONDVILLE.

0545 PM [HAIL](#) EDINBURG 26.30N 98.16W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH HIDALGO TX LAW ENFORCEMENT

EDINBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORTS GOLFBALL SIZE [HAIL](#)  
FELL IN EDINBURG BETWEEN 530 AND 6 PM CDT AT THE  
INTERSECTION OF CLOSNER AND CANTON.

0550 PM [HAIL](#) PHARR 26.18N 98.19W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTS GOLF BALL SIZE [HAIL](#) IN SOUTH PHARR

0550 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E4.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

SOFTBALL SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT MCALLEN HIGH SCHOOL.

0551 PM [HAIL](#) S RAYMONDVILLE 26.48N 97.78W  
04/20/2012 E0.75 INCH WILLACY TX PUBLIC

PENNY SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED SOUTH OF RAYMONDVILLE.

0552 PM [HAIL](#) 1 SSW RAYMONDVILLE 26.47N 97.78W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH WILLACY TX EMERGENCY MNGR

REPORTED ALL OVER TOWN. LOCATION OF THIS [REPORT](#) AT EOC  
ON S. 7TH STREET. DURATION OF [HAIL](#) TWO MINUTES.

0554 PM [HAIL](#) HIDALGO 26.10N 98.26W  
04/20/2012 E2.00 INCH HIDALGO TX FIRE DEPT/RESCUE

LARGE [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT MILITARY HWY AND 281.

0556 PM [HAIL](#) PALMVIEW 26.23N 98.37W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

0559 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED ON W 40TH STREET.

0601 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E2.50 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC REPORTS LARGE [HAIL](#) IN ALTON JUST NORTH OF  
MISSION MILE 5 REPORTS [NUMEROUS](#) BROKEN CAR WINDSHIELDS

0605 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX TRAINED SPOTTER

[SKYWARN](#) SPOTTER REPORTS QUARTER SIZE ON SHARY ROAD IN  
MISSION

0605 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

NICKEL SIZE [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT THE HARRY SHIMOTSU  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.

0608 PM [HAIL](#) MCALLEN 26.22N 98.24W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT CONWAY.

0610 PM [HAIL](#) LYFORD 26.41N 97.79W  
04/20/2012 E1.75 INCH WILLACY TX PUBLIC

GOLFBALL SIZE [HAIL](#) REPORTED ON HIGHWAY 77 NEAR LYFORD.

0625 PM [HAIL](#) MISSION 26.21N 98.32W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH HIDALGO TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZE [HAIL](#) NEAR CHIMMEY PARK

0635 PM [TORNADO](#) 6 SSW HARLINGEN 26.12N 97.73W  
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX EMERGENCY MNGR

[REPORT](#) OF FUNNEL AND TOUCH DOWN SOUTHWEST OF HIGHWAY 77  
IN HARLINGEN. RESIDENT AT INTERSECTION OF RANGERVILLE  
ROAD AND CR 800 REPORTED SPLIT TREE BLOWN ACROSS ROAD  
AND DEBRIS IN BACKYARD.

0636 PM [HAIL](#) HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W  
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

NICKEL SIZE [HAIL](#) REPORTED AT 2425 ED CAREY ROAD.

0638 PM [FUNNEL CLOUD](#) 2 N SAN BENITO 26.17N 97.64W  
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX TRAINED SPOTTER

[FUNNEL CLOUD](#) REPORTED ON NORTH SIDE OF SAN BENITO.

0644 PM [HAIL](#) HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED NEAR HARLINGEN HIGH SCHOOL.

0645 PM [HAIL](#) LOS FRESNOS 26.07N 97.48W  
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH CAMERON TX TRAINED SPOTTER

[SKYWARN](#) SPOTTER REPORTS NICKEL SIZE [HAIL](#)

0645 PM [HAIL](#) LOS FRESNOS 26.07N 97.48W  
04/20/2012 E0.88 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

NICKEL SIZED [HAIL](#) REPORTED NEAR LAURELES.

0645 PM [HAIL](#) HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZE REPORTED NEAR THE TREASURE HILLS AREA OF  
HARLINGEN.

0648 PM [HAIL](#) LOS FRESNOS 26.07N 97.48W  
04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH CAMERON TX PUBLIC

QUARTER SIZED [HAIL](#) AND WIND GUSTS OF AT LEAST 50 MPH.

0648 PM [FUNNEL CLOUD](#) HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W  
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX POST OFFICE

PUBLIC REPORTS [FUNNEL CLOUD](#) EAST OF HARLINGEN AIRPORT

0652 PM [FUNNEL CLOUD](#) HARLINGEN 26.20N 97.69W  
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX PUBLIC

PUBLIC [REPORT](#) OF [FUNNEL CLOUD](#) NEAR HARLINGEN AIRPORT

0700 PM [HAIL](#) 1 SSE BROWNSVILLE 25.91N 97.47W  
04/20/2012 CAMERON TX PUBLIC

INTERSECTION OF SOUTHMOST AND INTERNATIONAL BLVD.  
NICKEL TO QUARTER SIZE STONES.

0710 PM [HAIL](#) 5 SSW RANCHO VIEJO 25.97N 97.59W

04/20/2012 E1.00 INCH

CAMERON

TX PUBLIC

MOSTLY NICKEL SIZED BUT SEVERAL STONES OF QUARTER SIZED  
EMBEDDED.



*Softball size hail! Photo taken near McAllen, Texas. Large hail of this size can only happen with intense updrafts, perhaps as fast as 100+ mph. Courtesy of John Letney of Laredo, KE5CVT (amateur radio).*





**Left:** Photograph of possible wall cloud at the southern edge of the storm as it approached Brownsville, Texas, just before 7 PM April 20<sup>th</sup> \* (Claude Brehm). **Right:** Undulating mammatus clouds after the storms passed into Mexico. Both photos were taken in the City of Brownsville.



Is there a pot of gold at the end of this rainbow? After several bouts of hail and windstorms within a three week period beginning on March 29<sup>th</sup>, let's hope so!